



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
*Milwaukee County*  
CHRIS ABELE • COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**For Immediate Release:**

DATE: July 28, 2015

CONTACT: Nate Holton, Director of Communications

414.278.5281 Office

Nate.Holton@MilwaukeeCountyWI.gov

Twitter: @MkeCoExecPress

## **Win-Win-Win Between County, Local Businesses, and the Community**

**MILWAUKEE** – Today, the Economic and Community Development Committee approved an agreement with local business and community leaders to sell an outmoded County property to a developer and match a significant contribution to an economic development fund that will help invigorate Milwaukee's near-west side. Wiegand Enterprises has agreed to purchase the Milwaukee County City Campus, an outdated and vacant facility located on 27<sup>th</sup> and Wells St., for \$272,000 and rehabilitate the property in partnership with the County. As part of the deal, the Near West Side Partners, Inc. and Milwaukee County will each contribute \$800,000 to a matching grant program that will finance a variety of business development efforts, property improvements, and quality of life investments, all in or near the Avenues West neighborhood.

"Our partnership with Wiegand and the Near West Side Partners is a great example of the approach to economic development that Milwaukee County takes," County Executive Abele said. "By leveraging County funds and assets to catalyze local development, this deal creates a win for County taxpayers, local businesses, and the people of the Avenues West neighborhood."

County taxpayers will see a \$2 million per year savings in reduced maintenance costs and avoided capital expenditures as a result of the transaction. Due to the outmoded nature of the current City Campus, County employees stationed there recently moved into other offices, resulting in increased comfort for those employees and a reduced cost for the County.

Meanwhile, the people and businesses of Avenues West benefit greatly from this deal. At least a quarter of the interior demolition work in the rehabilitation will be done by disadvantaged businesses, and at least 5% of the subcontractors will provide workforce training for youth or low-income individuals.

-more-

The economic development fund will finance property acquisition and rehabilitation, small business development, restoration and renovation assistance for local property owners, and façade improvements. Together, these investments will make the Avenues West neighborhood an even more vibrant place for residents and businesses.

The agreement now moves to the County Board, who will have the opportunity to approve the agreement at their next meeting on Thursday, July 30 at 9:30am in Room 200 of the Milwaukee County Courthouse.

# # #